# THE MAYOR ENJOINED.

AR Official Intercourse Between the Chief Magistrate and the Old City Fathers Prohibited.

#### A'TEMPEST IN A TEAPOT.

The Ringing In of the New Year and Ringing Out of the Old, or the Contest Between the New and Old Boards of Aldermen.

#### A Very Pretty Quarrel as It Is---But What Next?

Yesterday Mr. Henry L. Clinton and Abraham R. rence, both able and prominent lawyers of the nitra "reform" stripe, appeared before Judge Brady, Special Term, and applied for a writ of prohibi on to be served upon Mayor Hall, prohibiting him rom swearing in, on the 1st of January next, any person or persons representing himself or themlives as elected member or members of the Board of Aldermen or Assistant Aldermen of this city. nis was an unexpected flank movement on the part of the astute counsel named. It was supposed nat if any demonstration should be made in this ction, the old, well-known beaten paths of legal ctics would be resorted to, and that the old game of procrastination could be easily foiled. The quo warranto mode of attack, however, was thrown aside, and, like Grant, the people's counsel moved on the as will be seen by the subjoined papers:-

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO A. OARRY HALL, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW York, Gresting:— Whereas Peter Glisey, lately in our Supreme Court, Whereas Peter Glisey, lately in our Supreme Court, before the Justices thereof, at the Court House in the city of New York, came and gave the same Court to anderstand, to be informed as follows, namely, to wit:—That the said Peter Glisey is and for many years last past has been a citizen or the United States, and of the State of New York, and an elector and resident of the city and county of New York; that at the general election held in the city of New York on the 1th day of November, 1871, the said Peter Glisey, Jenkins Van Schaick, William Kaude, James Fitzgeraid, William Joyce, James McLaren, Damiel D. Conover, Alexander Wider, Alexander Marin, John Falconer, Samuel B. H. Vance, John Cochrane and Solomon Menroach were duly elected as Aldermen of the city of New York for a term to commence on the first Monday of January, 1872, and that the said Peter Glisey and the persons abovenamed were and each of them was duly declared and certified to be elected to the said office of Aldermen by a majority of the votes cast by the electors of said city for the said office of Aldermen by a majority of the votes cast by the electors of said city for the said office of Alderman at the said election;

And whereas the said Peter Glisey hath further

And whereas the said Peter Gilsey hath further

Said election:

And whereas the said Peter Gilsey hath further represented to us that on the 2sth day of December, 1871, he duly subscribed and took an oath of office as such Alderman before the Honorable Albert Cardozo, one of the Justices of our Supreme Court; that the said oath was in writing, and that the same has been duly delivered at the office of the Mayor of the city of New York, for the purpose of being flied, as provided by the Charter of the said city of New York;

And whereas the said Peter Gilsey hath further represented to us that, at the election aloresaid, Thomas Coman and George W. Plunkitt were each also candidates for the said office of Alderman, and were also declared by the Board of County Canvassers of the County of New York to have been respectively elected as Alderman at the said election, for a term to commence on the first Monday of January, 1872, and to end on the first Monday of January, 1873; and also that, at the election storesaid, John Dilger and Michael Carroll were also each respectively candidates for the office of Alderman of said city, and that the said Dilger and Carroll chain that each of them was elected an Alderman of said city, over the said Plunkitt and Coman, for the term con unchieng on the lirst Monday in January, 1873, and have protested against the certificates of the said Board of County Canvassers certificates of the said Board of County Canvassers

and whereas the said Peter Gilsey hath further represented to us that in and by an act of the Leg-lature of this State, entitled "An Act to reorganize the local government of the city of New York," passed April 5, 1870, it is provided as follows:—

ARTICLE SECOND

SEC. 3.—The Board of Aldermen shall consist of fifteen members, to be elected upon a general ticket from the city all arge.

SEC. 4.—Such Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen shall be slocked as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 4.—The urst election for Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen shall take place at the judicial election, to be head to the city and county of New York on the third Thesday in May, in the year 1870, and the Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen shall take place at the judicial election, to be head to the city and county of New York on the third Thesday in May, in the year 1870, and the Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen in the elected shall take office on the tirst Monday in June 1870, thall shold office until the first Monday in January, which will be in the year 1872. There shall be Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen so elected in May, 1870, thall shold office until the first Monday in January, which will be in the year 1872. There shall be Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen elected at the general election in November, 1871, and annually interaster at every succeeding general election, who shall take office at noon on the tirst Monday of January in each and every year following their election.

That at the election held on said third Tuesday of May, 1870, Lawrence R. Jerome, William H. Charlock, Edward Cuddy, James G. Dimond, Emanuel E. Hart, James Irving, James McKlever, George H. Mitcheil, Bernard O'Nelli, Bryan Relly, Edward Schlichting, Edward Welsh, Henry Woltman, Thomas Coman and George W. Plunkitt were elected Aldermen of the city of New York, and that their terms on office will expire on the first Monday of January, 1872, at noon.

And whereas the said Peter Gilsey hath also represented to us that the aforexaid provisions of the Malute above mentioned and referred to were in full lorce and effect at the time the general election aloresaid was held in the city and county of New York, on the 7th day of November, 1871, and the same were in no respect repealed.

That by an act of the Legislature of this State, e

New York, 'passed April 5, 1870,' passed April 18, 1871, It is provided as follows:—

\*\*BROTION 10.—Section 6 of said set is hereby amended so say to read as follows:—

"SRC, 6.—The Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen who were elected severally as such in May 1870, and who are severally in office at the passage of this act, shail bold and are hereby continued in office until the first Monday in January, which will be in the year 1873. There shail be Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen elected at the year 1873, and for a term of two years and annually every two years thereafter, on the day of the general State election. The said term for the Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen shall commence on the first Monday of the January succeeding each said election. All the provisions of law relating to general elections in the city of New York, so far as they may be applicable in respect to the manner of conducting elections, or to the canvass and estimate of votes, and all spily to every election for Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen, Amy vacancy in the office or offices of Aldermen as Assistant Aldermen, occurring or existing from death or resignation, or any other cause or contingency, before said section in 1872, shall be filled by the appointment of the Mayor, and filed with the cleras of the respective Boards."

And whereas the said Peter Gliscy hath also rep-

or assistant Aldermen, occurring or existing from death or resignation, or any other cause or contingency, before said election in 1872, shall be filled by the appointment of the Mayor, and filed with the clerks of the respective Boards."

And whereas the said Peter Gilsey hath also represented to us that he is advised and believes that the said act of 1871 above set forth is unconstitutional and void. That A. Oakey Hail is the Mayor of the city of New York, and that his present term of office as such Mayor commenced on the first Monday of January, 1871, and that, although the said Peter Gilsey and Jenkins Van Schalek, William Radde, James Fitzgerald, William Joyce, James McLaren, Daniel D. Conover, Alexander Wilder, Alexander Martin, John Falconer, Samuel B. H. Vance, John Cochrane and Solomon Mentbach have been duly elected as Aldermen, as a foresaid, the said A. Oakey Hall, as such Mayor, as aforesaid, is determined to prevent the said Peter Gilsey and the said Jenkins Van Schalek, William Radde, James Fitzgerald, William Joyce, James McLaren, Daniel D. Conover, Alexander Wilder, Alexander Martin, John Falconer, Samuel B. H. Vance, John Cochrane and Soloman Montbach from exercising the powers, duties, prerogatives and privileges of Aldermen of the city of New York, and Chat for that purpose and for that end he has concluded and determined to carry into execution the Pretence that the said Lawrence R. Jerome, William H. Charlock, Edward Cuddy, James G. Dimond, Emanuel B. Hart, James Irving, James McKlever, George H. Mitchell, Bernard O'Neill, Bryan Relliy, Edward Scheller, Edward Cuddy, James G. Dimond, Emanuel B. Hart, James Irving, James McKlever, George H. Mitchell, Bernard O'Neill, Bryan Relliy, Edward Schlichting, Edward Welsh, Henry Woltman, Thomas Coman and George W. Plunkitt as the Alderm

of the firm honday of January, 1872, to exclusively confer and communicate with the said last named such Aldermen, in regard and in rela atters in reference to which the Mayor en of the city of New York conjointly

and Aldermen of the city of New York conjointy
and waereas he said Feter Glesy hait also represented to us that, in order Glesy hait also represented to us that, in order Glesy hait also represented to us that, in order Glesy hait also represented to us that, in order Glesy and indecessing and a diversity of the control of the first Monday of January, 1872, to appoint to the office of Alderman each of the said A. Oakey Hail, as Mayor aforesaid, is about, on or and the control of th

hrss Moliday of Santary, and there this writ.

Witness the Hon. John R. BRADY, one of the Justices of our said Supreme Conr., at the Court House, in ... Justices of New York, the 29th day of December, 1871.

A. R. LAWRENCE, Jr., Attorney, HENRY L. CLINTON, of Counsel.

The Board of Aldermen. The Roard of Aldermen met at two o'clock vester-

The session was brief, and among the papers offered was one from the Assistant Aldermen, ap-pointing Edmund Fitzpatrick a Commissioner of Deeds, in place of Judson Jarvis, of the Sheriff's Office. A resolution to that effect was adopted by a unanimous vote. The Board then took a recess until

At four o'clock the Board reassembled, and, on motion of Alderman Plunkitt, the meeting of the Board was adjourned to nine o'clock on Monday morning. The object of the adjournment is to reas to the effect of the above prohibitory order re ceived by the Mayor.

### AROUND THE CITY HALL

The Mayor's Office. The great event yesterday at the above office wa the serving upon the Mayor of a prohibitory order as to his swearing in the Board of Aldermen and Asustant Aldermen. A copy of this document will be found in another column in the reports of the law courts. The Mayor, in mentioning it, said it placed him in rather an embarrassing position. The order forbade him having "any intercourse" with the Aldermen. He was engaged to dine with one Alderman next week and also to join that Alderman as one of a shooting party. He presumed that,

Mr. Sylvester Foster Dewey, formerly Contract Clerk in the Department of Public Works, was appointed Clerk of Assessments under Mr. Stark-weather, and filed his bonds at the Mayor's office and was sworn in by Colonel Joline. Mr. Commissioner van Nort has completed his bonds and has deposited them with the Comptroller.

This Commission met yesterday at the Comptroller's office, Mayor Hail in the chair. There were present Comptroller Green and Judge Bosworth. Judge Bosworth presented a report stating that

and recommending that Contractor Brown's bill covering the fortnight from December 1 to Decemwards a number of streets were not cleaned. The

report was laid over. good deal of consideration, and he thought the only way was for the Legislature to authorize some one the old style of street cleaning by districts could be taken up or the Board of Health take the whole business under its supervision.

The Board then adjourned, with the understanding that the contract be carefully examined by Judge Bosworth with a view to its abolition.

Judson Jarvis, Grder-of-Arrest Cierk, proceeded up town yesterday to arrest Fisk and Gould on a complaint lodged against them by Charles C. Allen, the broker, who charges them with having mainclously caused his arrest on a charge of perjury, and claims \$00,000 damages. Fisk is sick in bed, and Judson Jarvis was told

Fisk is sick in bed, and Judson Jarvis was told that the Colonel's malady is smallpox.

However this may be, neither Fisk nor Gould was arrested; but their counsel, David Dudley Field, had an interview with Sheriff Brennan, and pledged himself to produce both his clients on Tuesday morning, and to furnish ball in \$25,000 each.

The Sheriff agreed to these terms, and no further action will be taken in the matter until after New Year's Day.

adopted the following resolutions;-To pay william J. Ferguson and Robert McKay, each \$605 65, for services as third and fourth assistant clerks in the Marine Court, from September 1 to date; Dr. Philip Markie, interpreter of the same court, \$1,000 per annum; James C. king, John Ford and Timothy G. ullivan, each \$250, for services as doorkeepers to Special Committee on Accounts. Also, to pay the Sherif \$20,230 95 for official services to December 30, and \$5,303 50 for commitments of prisoners; Warden Tracey, of the Luclow Street Jail. \$3,226 30 for supplies furnished for December; the Coroners, for official services to December 30, \$44,680, and the Debuty Coroners, for post-mortem examinations, \$3,511; Benjamin F. Brady, for engrossing resolutions of the Board, \$235; the Knickerbocker Ice Company, for ice furnished to the various courts, \$2,010.

The following bills for repairs to armories were ordered to be middi-

J. D. Welch & Co., Twenty-fourth street, near Sixth avenue J. D. Welch & Co., Washington Greys......

New Year's Day Reception. Hall will not be given by the Mayor on Monday next. Callers may, therefore, pass the office of the Mayor and be quite certain that there will be no discourtesy shown towards the Chief Magistrate

### TWEED'S RELIEF.

EXAMINATION OF THE BONDSMEN

The Sureties Still Justify-"Young Dick" Tweed Before the Legal Batteries-Severe Catechising and Racy Statistics.

The third bondsman of William M. Tweed, in the person of his son, Richard M. Tweed, presented himself for examination yesterday relative to the amount of property he possessed. The Court was not filled, but those in attendance seemed to watch the proceedings with considerable relish and curiosity. The same counsel previously engaged were

In continuation of his examination, adjourned from Friday evening, Mr. Richard M. Tweed, in reply to Mr. Burrill, stated that he owned property on the circle at Eighth avenue and Fifty-ninth street, worth \$300,000, several lots near Forty-third street on Fifth avenue, worth \$275,000, and some on Forty-second street, near Eighth avenue, valued at \$12,000, out, being mortgaged, the net value to him was \$7,000; owned real estate on Twenty-third street and Fourth avenue, of the value of \$30,500; on Eighth avenue, near Seventy-first street, worth \$16,250; on Eighty-fourth street, between Eighth and Ninth avenues, worth \$30,000; on Seventyfourth street, near the Boulevard, worth \$300,000; on Ninth street, near Third avenue, valued at \$18,000; on Oliver street, worth \$13,000; on Firteenth street, near Seventh avenue, worth \$15,000; on Mercer street, valued at \$900,000; on Eighth avenue, near 113th street, worth \$8,000; on Fourth avenue, near 105th street, estimated at \$25,000; on Third avenue and Sixty-third street, at \$75,000; on Deane street, at \$260,000; on Sixty-third street, near Eighth avenue, at \$600,000; on Flity-seventh and Fifty-eighth streets and Ninth avenue, at \$35,000, and on Broadway and Twenty-first street, at \$600,000.

These pieces of property were deeded to him from his father and mother, some in last August and others in November. Some consideration was stated in the transfers made in August, but of those in November the only consideration was love and

In the aggregate the pieces of property were valued at \$1,584,000. THE CROSS-EXAMINATION.

Mr. Choate then proceeded to cross-examine the vitness, who testified that he was twenty-four years of age: his occupation was that of hotel keeper, he having charge of the Metropolitan Hotel since August last; previous to that was clerk in the New York Printing Company: had no real estate and no personal property of any account. There was no understanding in regard to this property with

his father; he thought it was given to said about his being given this property with the view of his being able to give ball; the deeds of such property, and of that on Fifth avenue, were put on record; none of the others had been; did not think it necessary, it being a family arrange sired; had told the agent of the property. Mr. Demorest, to collect the rents on his account, and no-

Mr. CHOATE-Do not your father and mothe side on your property on Fifth avenue and Forty-Mr. Tween-They do.

Mr. CHOATE-Have you notified them to leave? Mr. Tweed-No, I haven't turned them out of

Some of this property was transferred with the understanding that he would transfer it to his mother. He had not spoken to his father as to rethat his father was to be arrested he had a conver sation with his brother William M. and determined to have the Fifth avenue property recorded; the rest of the property was all conveyed to him on the

Mr. CHOATE-Who was present? Mr. Tween-My brother William.

Mr. CHOATE - Did he not object to your getting the

lion's share of the property?

Mr. Tweep—No, he did not. CHOATE-Did any other member of the family

Mr. Tweed-No, sir; there was no one said any.

CHOATE-What did your father say when giving you this property?

Tweed-1 can't say exactly. I think he said "Here, Richard, I give you this to make you a rich

Tweed-I didn't say anything in particular. CHOATE-Did you not thank him for it? Tweep-I can't swear that I did.

Mr. CHOATE-I think I would if anybody gave me million. Mr. Tweed next stated that he did not know

positively, but was of the opinion that with the roperty he assumed the mortgages on it; did not have the titles examined, and had not taken advice of counsel as to the validity of the deeds as against the creditors of his father. Mr. BURRILL-Time enough for that when you

Mr. Tweep-I don't know that my father has any

Mr. CHOATE-Do you not know that there is a suit for \$6,000,000 brought against him? Mr. Tween—I know about this suit.

Mr. CHOATE-Did you know it at the time of the deeds being made out? Mr. Tweed-I did when the last two were drawn

He then ex plained that he and his partner paid Tweed, Sr., the same rent which he paid Mr. Stewart, namely, \$82,000. The money to fit it up had been advanced by his father; the ordinary ex penses of running the hotel were paid out of the receipts. He made his estimates of the value of the property from what was paid for it and from what he had heard from real estate men. He was released from the consideration on the Fifth ave-nue and circle property, but the releases were not as yet signed. The circle property was acquired by his father in 1868, the Fifth avenue in 1869 or 1870, the Duane street in 1868, and the Mercer stree; in 1870.

in 1870.
Mr. CHOATE—What do you intend to do with this Mr. CHOATE What do rectified plan of operations, Mr. CHOATE II your father asked it from you rould you give it back to him?

Mr. IWEED—That would be as I thought best if

the necessity arose, Mr. Choate-Do you know whether your father has any property left?

Mr. Tweed—I suppose he has.

Mr. CHOATE—Would you take what you got if you thought he had none other?

Mr. Tweed—I can't say what I would do in such

Mr. Twred—I can't say what I would do in such a case.
Mr. BURRILL.—Do you not own this property, just as you own your hat and boots?
Mr. Twred—I do.
Mr. Choare—You say you own it the same as your hat and boots?
Mr. Twred—Yes, sir.
Mr. Choare—Did you pay for it?
Mr. Twred—Did you pay for your hat and boots?
Mr. Twred—Did you pay for your hat and boots?
Mr. Twred—Did you pay for your hat and boots?
Mr. Twred—Did you pay for your hat and boots?
Mr. Twred—I can't swear that I did (laughter).
This ended the examination, and a recess was taken until Wednesday.

## CONNOLLY AND TWEED.

The Late Comptroller to Spend His New Year's Day in Ludlow Street Jail-The Bail Bond in the Civil Suit Completed-Joel A. Fithian in Mrs. Devlin's Place Rolease and a Plea on the Indictment of Judge Bedford's Grand Jury on Tuesday-The "Boss" Still in Town.

Ex-Comptroller Connolly will spend his New not through lack of exertion on the part of his sonin-law that he will not receive "callers" at his own residence, surrounded by his family. He will no lack visitors at his present abode, to be sure, though their presence can afford but little pleasure to the ex-Comptroller in the recollection of old times.

It is not exaggeration to say that Surrogate Hutchings

WORKED LIKE A PACK HORSE. to effect his lather-in-law's release before the New Year. For weeks back he has been closeted for hours every day with Mr. Connolly's lawyers, Ruius A. B. C. Andrews and Mr. Courtiey, in his own private office. These consultations generally ented in an excursion by the three gentlemen to nunt up some quondam friend of the late Comptroller and try and induce him to accept the responsibility. They had succeeded by Tnursday last, and all that remained was to make sure of one or two bondsmen in small amounts in the case of the criminal indictments found against Mr. Connolly by Judge Bedford. When the justification of Tweed's balls began, however, in the Supreme Court, Mrs. Devlin who, was one of Connolly's securities in the sum of \$100,000, like Alderman Fariey, in Tweed's case, took fright and without stand the terrible cross-examination to which Tweed's balls were subjected. No amount of persuasion could induce her to allow her name to remain on the bond, and Surrogate Hutenings and the lawyers had to begin their work again. Mrs. Devlin withdrew her name on Thursday afternoon, before which it was hoped that all arrangements would be perfected, so that Mr. Connolly could be brought from Ludlow Street Jail before Judge Bedford, and if he were held without bail, he could then be taken before some Judge of the Supreme Court and bail taken for him. Mrs. Devin's withdrawal

KNOCKED ON THE HEAD to effect his lather-in-law's release before the New

this arrangement, which would allow poor Dick to spend his New Year at home. Up to yesterday morning Surrogate Hutchings was unsuccessful his efforts to get some one to supply Mrs. Devin's place. Mr. Joet A. Filnian, Surrogate Hutchings and Messrs. Andrews and Courtney met at the surrogate's office and had a long consultation, the result of which was that Mr. Fithian's name was added to the list of Connolly's bondsmen. There was not sufficient time left before to-day to make sure of bondsmen on the criminal indictment and avoid all danger of spending New Year's Day in the Tombs. Mr. Connolly's triends say that he will leave Ludlow Street Jai on Tuesday next, and that he will plead on the indictiment charging him with misdemeanor before the City Judge.

street Jan on Tuesday next, and that he will plead on the indictiment charging aim with misdemeanor before the City Judge.

THE "BOSS" IN TOWN STILL.

Mr. Tweed, accompanied by his sons, came down town at an early nour yesterday morning, and drove first to his private office at \$5 Duane street, where he received a number of political friends. He subsequently went over to the Supreme Court, where his bondsmen were justlying. The "Boss" looked much better than he did yesterday, when his hiding away for twenty-lour hours made his ruddy face look rather haggard and worn. He did not visit the Department of Public Works during the day at all. As he waiked through the corridors of the new Court House ne was "the observed of all observers." Wr. Tweed smiled and noded on all sides and here and there shook hands hearthy with some prominent politicians. Up to a late nour last night he had not left town for Albany.

The general impression in political circles seemed to be yesterday that he would back out at the last moment and remain at home until he goes up to Albany as defendant in the suit of The People of the State of New York vs. William M. Tweed.

#### TWEED'S SUCCESSOR.

The Commission r of Public Works In His New Office.

An Interview with Mr. Van Nort-What He is Going To Do About It-Economy and Work To Be the Controlling Powers Under the Present Direction-A Sensible Letter to the Heads of Bureaus

The Department of Public Works Any one who had visited the Department of Pub-lic Works under the Tweet regime would be astonished at the wonderful change the place has un dergone. A HEBALD reporter called there yesterday about one o'clock, having learned that Mr. Van

TO TAKE FORMAL POSSESSION of the department. It was stated in the Herald vesterday that the outer office was stripped of all its costly ornaments, statuesques, &c. To-day this room was thrown open to the visitors for the first time since Tweed first made it a star chamber, where "Ring" plots were hatched and Tammany tactics had out. The messengers were seated ground the fire, and Mr. Van Nort retains only the apartment which Tweed made the "sanctum sanctorum," the inside of which none but the lavored lew saw.

The reporter sent in his name and at once received an invitation to enter. Mr. Van Nort was seated at his desk, with a large pile of papers before him, through which he seemed to be wading. Having shaken hands and offered his congratulations, the reporter was invited to take a seat, when the new Commissioner added:—

"I suppose you have come over to see me in connection with the business of the department?"

"Yes, Mr. Van Nort, I have. I am one of the grievances that you have got to bear up against in your new cancily."

Mr. Van Nort smiled and added, "I shall be happy to tell you what I mean to do. Of course I have not yet had time to go into any particulars, but I will give you generally the course which I intend to take."

"that is precisely what I wish to know, Mr. Van of the department. It was stated in the HERALI

"That is precisely what I wish to know, Mr. Van

"That is precisely what I wish to know, Mr. Van Nort."

"Well, sir, first, Mr. Tweed met me here yesterday evening, and formally delivered over into my hands the office, books, papers, &c., and introduced me to the gentlemen who are at the head of the different departments. I came here to-day at noon and I had an interview with the chief Engineer of the Croton Water Department and the heads of the other departments. I informed them all that I would require of them by a certain day, which I would indicate by letter, to make a return of the different works which the departments are at present engaged in, of the number of men at present employed in each, their compensation, &c."

"With the object, I suppose, of using the pruning knife"

Yes. With regard to the works which are now "Yes. With regard to the works which are now going on, those which can be advantageously continued, or, of course, which are absolutely necessary, shall be continued. Those which can be advantageously arrested or delayed shall be stopped, considering the present municipal difficulties."

"And with regard to the pay rolls."

"In that matter I shall endeavor to follow ont, as far as possible, Mr. Green in the arduous task of reform which he has undertaken. It will be a thank-less work, I suppose; but I shall adopt that course, nevertheless."

"I suppose it's hardly fair to ask you whether you think you will have to use the guillotine to any extent."

"Of course I have had no opportunity yet of making even a cursory examination of the affairs

"Of course I have had no opportunity yet of making even a cursory examination of the affairs of the department; but I may say that where reform is needed it shall be initiated."
"I suppose you have not seen Mr. Tweed since he delivered over the department into your charge?"
"No, I have not. The neads of the various departments will be able to give me all the information I want."
"I believe that is all I wished to ask you, Mr. van Nort. Accept my congratulations again. Good day."

van Nort. Accept my congratuations again day."

"Good day. Glad to see you any time."

As the reporter left the building he could not help thinking that the diamond-bedecked buildogs who lounged in the "Star Chamber" in days of yore would have nothing in sympathy with the tail, dignified individual, dressed in black, with studied absence of ornament, who now holds sway in the Department of Public Works.

Mr. George M. Van Nort, the Commissioner of th Department of Public Works, has issued the following circular to the heads of the various bureaus in

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, No. 257 BROADWAY, No. 257 BROADWAY, SIR—You will at once report so this department the names of all employes under your Boreau, the duties and compensation of each; also the names of such whose services can be dispensed with without impairing the efficiency of the department, a list of all contracts now in force, with the name of the contractor, the nature of the work or supplies, the period at which such contracts expire, the amount of same and all other liftormation appertaining thereto; statements showing the condition of the accounts to your Bureau, the work to work to make the condition of the accounts to your Bureau, the can be advantageously prosecuted, or whether it can be subspaced without detriment to the public interest, together with such general information regarding the duties and operations of the Bureau as may be considered necessary. In view of the present condition of the city finances is destrable that the heads of bureaus will cheerfully aid this department in its purpose of co-operating with the other city departments, and especially with the Department of Finance, in reducing the expenditures of the city government to the low est possible limit consistent with the proper discharge of its functions. Respectfully, GEORGE M. VAN NORT,

# THE STATE CAPITAL.

Gathering of the Clans for the Coming Legislature.

THE SPEAKERSHIP CONTEST.

The Salt Sage of Onondaga on the City Charter-The Only Way to Secure Reform.

Appointments by the Secretary of State.

Railroad Interests to Predominate During the Session.

ALBANY, Dec. 30, 1871. The incoming trains of last night and to-day have brought large numbers of country mem bers and ex-officers of the several depart ments of the State government, and this slow, old Dutch town is actually becoming lively. Since my despatch of last night there seems to be very little, if any, change in the situation of affairs. The new members are afraid to say a word, and are waiting to study up the situation. "WHO IS TO BE THE SPEAKER?"

is a question which strikes them almost dumb. Even Husted-the Bald Eagle of Westchester-was driven into that condition in which a HERALD re porter once found Alderman Bryan Rellly, of New York, "entirely ignorant,"

"Well, now, upon my word I haven't the least idea," replied the uvely Husted to the all-important question, following that honest acknowledgment with a pursing up of his mouth and a dropping of his head to one side in a style which would do credit to Solon Shingle.

Prince, of Queens, is moving around, "working like a beaver," with the hope of collecting strength enough to keep open the breach between Alvord and Smith, and force the acceptance of his name as a compromise candidate. General Merritt, of St. Lawrence county, late Naval Officer of New York, when asked for his opinion, stated that he thought Smith was working quietry and effectively. His friends did not show themselves around the notels, but much work could be done without that. Later on he said, in reply to the same question, "Well now, when I was working steel filings and wanted to pick them up, I took a magnet, and first moved it around over the piles of dirt, and then the filings, you know, would come right up and stick. That's just the way here.

THE CANDIDATES ARE MOVING THEIR MAGNETS over the incongrous mass, and whichever has the strongest magnet will, no doubt, secure the most," The General then gave a smile at his simile and moved away, shaking his head when asked if the

magnetism most needed was personal, metallic or "florous paper." Strahan, of Ulster, arrived last night, but as no body mentions him he may be considered as being enurely out of the race for Speakership, while Twombly, on account of his well known affiliations with Policeman flank Smith, may as well make no

pretence to be a candidate. ALVORD AND ALBERGER met this morning in the cosey rooms of the former at the Delavan. The Sait Sage was smiling as usual when the tall and stately form of Alberger entered the room. The latter gentleman, who resembles Governor Fenton in his general style, bowed until his heard rested against his cravat; then he smiled. sent his eyebrows up on his forehead and said in most courteous stateliness-"Good-a-mawning-

Governor Alvaud." "Good morning, Fred; good morning," replied mas, atter which they shook hands

and sat down. Several newly arrived country members called, and almost all seemed decidedly in favor of the that he "Jis lef home jistiddy an jis kem deoun t git good-ready for chimmorrow or Monday.

Mr. Alvord himself is exceedingly confident, se much so that he assured the HERALD representative that he "could not see any possible thing to

Mr. Alvord himself is exceedingly confident, se much so that he assured the Herald representative that he "could not see any possible thing to stop him, although there is no telling what may transpire in twenty-four or thirty-six nours."

MY ALVORD WON'T WITHDRAW in favor of Alberger was stated this morning by him in its conversation with the latter. He was assuring the country members as they came in that their first duty was to elect himself or Alberger or Smith or Prince or some other good fellow speaker of the House, and that the only reason why he would not withdraw in favor of Alberger was "because he wanted the place himself."

THE CLERKSHIPS seem to be pretty well decided on. Terwilliger will be elected in the Senate and Ed. M. Johnson in the Assembly. The other candidates are still working, and hope to "catch" some of the deputy cierkships. The NEW YORK CITY AFFAIRS will, of course, monopolize a large portion of the time of the Legislature, and the general impression among those who have aiready arrived is that the republicans will take everything, will make no bargains with the "reformers," as the votes of the latter are not needed to pass any measure. One prominent republicans stated to your correspondent that as his party was to be responsible for the work done here they would manage to suit themselves. He was quite positive in the assertion that the COMMITTER OF SEVENTY CHARTER would be scarcely looked at, and that whatever charter was presented would, in all probability, be defiberated upon in Committee of the Whole more than in any special or standing committee. Your representative had a short interview with Mr. Alvord on the subject.

HERALD REPORTER—Governor, have you given any thought to the probable action of the Legislature in regara to New York city matters?

Gov-rope Alvordo—No, not much. I have been so much taken up with this canvass that I have scarcely had lime to think of anything eise. I thought your Committee of Seventy or Ninety or a thousand would fix up something to suit the peopl

ernment.

The old gentlemen became quite emphatic while speaking, and his sentiments will undoubtedly and an echo in the minds of many hundreds or

and an echo in the minds of many hundreds or thousands in the city.

THE NEW SECRETARY OF STATE has entered informally upon the duties of his office, he is making himself thoroughly acquainted with the details, and is very loud in his encomiums on the manner in which the work of the department has been done and the kindless and courtesy he has received from the outgoing officers.

He has made the following appointments in his office:—

office:—
Deputy Secretary of State—Anson S. Wood, of Wayne county.
Chief Clerk—Colonel Edward P. Gould, of Mouroe Book and Pardon Clerk-Fulton Paul, of Colum-

Book and Pardon Clerk—Pulton Paul, of Columbia county.
Clerk of Incorporations and Poor Statistics—
Dwight A. Lawrence, of New York.
Certificate and Alien Deposition Clerk—Alfred B.
Street, of Albany county.
Lant Clerk—William E. Stickland, of Kings
county.

Street, of Albany county.

Land Cierk—William E. Stickland, of Kings county.

Cierk of Criminal Statistics—Michael O'Sullivan, of Albany county.

General Cierk—William H. Sanger, of Westchester county.

General Cierk—Eugene Frost, of Westchester county.

Messenger—William Briggs, of Westchester county.

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Rail.Road Rings,

It is believed, will have immense sway. Wagner, the palace car man, and Baker, son or the Superimendent of the Reusselaer and Saratoga Italiroad, being in the Senate—the former reported to be on the Railroad Committee—is regarded as a sign that the Vauder-bilt interest will be pushed and an INCREASE OF PARES allowed on the roads through the State. Erle, under the circumstances above mentioned, will, no doubt, be stirred up, and it there be any blood left in the

corporation at present it will undoubtedly be well

Naval Agent Lafin, accompanied by several deputies in the Custom House arrived. A. B. Cornell, and other members of the State Committee were already on hand, and the whole power of the Custom House is to be devoted in favor of Smith, of Albany. Hank Smith, Tommy Mulligan and a lew others of the Greeley republicans have arrived, and are talking Twombly. The friends of the latter are indignant at the connection of his name with that of Hank Smith and Hepburn, and the person loudest in his indignation is Tom Stewart. It may be considered somewhat strange, under the circumstances, that Hank is here, and the two Hepburns are expected here toloby in Twombiy's interest. Rich developments may be expected, as every prominent candidate's record is being severely overhauled.

#### SECRETARY FISH'S RESIGNATION.

The Premier Saying His Resignation is in Abeyance, but Meaning a Great Deal More.

What He Thinks About the Recall of Minister Roberts and Captain General Valmaseda-Looks Gloomy About the New Spanish Ambassador.

The public have grown sceptical on the subject of Secretary Fish's resignation, but it is once morefor the one hundreath time or so-on the tapis, and in a more tangible shape than ever In fact, his final retirement in a day or two is no longer a matter of conjecture, but one of almost absolute certainty. The truth is that Mr. Fish's mind has been tossed and buffered between two opposing currents-between his personal destre to remain in office until the Treaty of Washington is brought to a final conclusion and the entreaties of his family, who have urged bun and begged of him, with scarce an interval for breatning time, to exchange the bleak, homeless existence of Washington with the

comforts of his capacious mansion in New York.

The difficulties lately arisen between the United States and Spain, with regard to Cuban matters, have matured his resolution to withdraw as soon as possible from affairs which threaten to assume a black and stormy aspect. From these circumstances and from his remarks, as stated further on, it is safe to say that Mr. Fish has virtually already resigned his office and is now arranging affairs for his successor, who will be either Mr. Pierrepont or Mr. Curtis, but most probably the former. His formal and final letter of resignation may already be in the hands of the President.

Secretary Fish being now in this city, a HERALD reporter called on hun last evening, and the following conversation took place concerning his retirement and the recall of Minister Roberts and Captain

General Valmaseda:-REPORTEE-What do you think, Mr. Secretary, bout these Spanish changes? Secretary Fish-I don't know exactly what to

make of them. I am sorry about the recall of the Spanish Minister, for I have yet to know the spaniard who is a better man than Senor Roberts. He has been invariably courteous and kind. Whenever he possibly could he advocated a humane policy in Cuba, and endeavored to mitigate the severity of the Spanish rule in that island. I do not know how his successor will turn out to be there Mr. Fish shook his head gloomily); but this I can say, Spain has never sent a better representative to Washington than Sedor Roberts.

REPORTER-Has Senor Roberts been superseded because he was, perhaps, too conciliatory for his

Secretary FISH-He has been conciliatory, but also firm and dignified; not more conclinatory than his instructions warranted him to be. His instructions may have been wrong, but, whether right or wrong, he was bound to follow them. Do your despatches state whether the recall of Minister Roberts and of Valmaseda means a change

of policy towards Cuba? REPORTER-It is scarcely safe to say that the replacement of Valmaseda by Concha will have for result a more humane régime in Cuba. Pernaps quite the reverse. The massacre of a party of young Americans in Cuba under the former rule of Concha is still remembered by our people. But I was going to ask you the same question, sir.

SECRETARY FISH-I do not know any more about REPORTER-It is said that affairs in the State Department are very much unsettled on account of whether you will shortly resign or remain in off for any length of time.
Secretary Fish (hesitatingly)—Well, the matter is

Secretary Fish (hestatingly)—Well, the matter is in abeyance. I do not wish to say anything about it at present, but the facts will come out in a very short time.

The mysterious and hesitating manner of Mr.

# JEALOUSY IN JERSEY.

Pracic Wind-up of a "Variety" Wedding-A Widow That Would Wear the Breeches-How the Personated Her Inconstant Love

with a Pistol Bullet-Her Arrest. Once more does Jersey loom up as the scene of renuine love, jealousy and attempted murder sensation, some details of which are intensely dramatic in character. On the line of the Camden and Amboy Railroad, some eight or nine miles from New Brunswick, in Middlesex county, N. J., is located a very pretty village, called Spots-wood. Here it was, on Thursday night, that the affair alluded to took place. At the hotel there, on the night named, a party gathered to enjoy a "variety wedding"-a social in stitution gotten up by persons desirous of nonoring a married couple, by bringing presents of all sorts and indulging in a merry time generally. About eleven o'clock, while the sport was at its height within doors, the proprietor of the hotel, a Mr. Jernee, looked out on his plazza and observed lounging suspiciously there a well dressed stranger. Lately the country about has been subjected to visits from burgiars of the Edwards type, and clizens are increfore suspicious of strangers. After scanning the unknown the hotel keeper concluded to ask him in, but the civility was declined and mine host returned to his guests. Soon after he reappeared, accompanied by a young man of the village, named Daniel Showaili.

THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER was still on the piazza. Advancing towards him Jernee and Showhill ordered him sharply about his business or elseenter to the hotel. Ere they reached the stranger he whipped out from his breast pocket a revoiver, and, anning it at Showhill, fired two shots in rapid succession. The first snot took effect in his left lung, while the second flew nast wide of the pistol shot startled every one of the inside reveilers, and in a minute the notel front was crowded with rustic belies and beaux.

THE ASSASSIN FIED, eleven o'clock, while the sport was at its height

pistol shot startled every one of the inside reveilers, and in a minute the notel front was crowded with rustic belies and beaux.

The assassin fled, and a crowd of fleet-footed Spotswood valiants. Turning on the pursuers, the mystery hrew off the silk hat, cost, mustache and whiskers, and revealed the face and form of Mrs. Commodore Chauncey, a young widow of the place, of more than ordinary personal attractions. Leveling the revolver at her pursuers, she soon compelled them to come to a halt, and she escaped. But for divesting herself of her disguise not a soul in the crowd would ever bave identified man sent for post haste. The wound was found to be very serious, so that fears of a fatal termination were entertained. Since then, however, a change for the better has taken place, and it is now thought probable that Snowhill may recover. It appears he and Mrs. Chauncey were engaged to be married, but his free and easy style did not suit her, and so she took summary measures to put a stop to his floating around at promiscuous gatherings.

The whole has been absentance. The story goes that she and Snowhill had a violent quarrel prior to the shooting, and that he weat so far as to strike her. A youthful relative of hers is charged with being an accomplice in the assassination plan, Justice Appleby, of Spotswood, promises to give the whole again an ample investigation. The whole of Middicsex and Monmouth counties are inched excited over the matter. All the parties are widely known in the parts named.

# VIEWS OF THE PAST,

DECEMBER SI.

1870—General Prim died, King Victor Emanuel entered Rome.

1862—First day of the battle of Murfreesboro, Tenn.

1860—Louis Napoleon advised Pope Plus to give up his revoited provinces.

1775—Hattle of Quobec, Canada; the American patrioss, under General Montgomery and Beneral Bot Arnoid, repulsed in an attack on the city, and the former officer silled.